

“Be courageously persistent in prayer...” Colossians 4:2



Welcome to the Grace Brethren Church of Norwalk

August 16, 2015
Services Today at Grace —

Sunday School: 9:30am

Class: 3 - 5 yrs. old (Kinder.)

Teacher: Caroll Ann Perkins

Class: 4th - 6th grade (5A)

Teacher: Robin Predmore

Class: Adults (6B)

Teacher: Dave Goodwyn

Class: Young Adults

Teacher: Vet Gonzalez

Class: 1st - 3rd grade (KIDMO)

Teacher: Lisa Patton

Class: DRIVEN (Jr. & Sr. High)

Teacher: Timothy Lansing

Class: Adults (Conf. Rm.)

Teacher: Ron Muir

Praise & Worship Service: 10:45am

Children’s Church for 3-5 years old & K-3rd grade after opening

Those Serving Today at Grace —

Ushers for the month of August:

Robert Kimsey, Victor Pearce, Ron Muir, Steven Yrineo

Nursery – Today 8/16

9:15am Jennifer Gonzalez
Clansy Cabrera

10:30am Sandy Goodwyn
Tracy Lansing

Nursery – Next Week 8/23

9:15am Jennifer Gonzalez
Clansy Cabrera

10:30am Janine Lansing
Roxy Barragan

Happy Anniversary —

Pastor Jeff & Lisa Patton August 20

Martin & Heather Reynaga August 21

Happy Birthday —

Ian Reynaga August 17

Vet Gonzalez August 17

Kyle Predmore August 21

Events This Week —

Elders’ Meeting Tues., 7:00pm

NO WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT

DRIVEN Pool Party Wed., 6:30pm

CHURCH WORK DAY Sat., 8:00am-noon

Events This Month & Next —

Ladies’ Discipleship Mon., 8/24, 7:00pm

NO FAMILY NIGHT Wed., 8/26

DRIVEN Kayaking Sun., 8/30, 12:30-6pm

COMMUNION SERVICE Sun., 9/6, 12:15pm

Church Fellowship Meal Sun., 9/20, 12:15pm

For The Record —

*SEE PATTY MORRIS’ NEW PRAYER LETTER ON THE BACK TABLE.

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday School: 46

Morning Worship: 92

NOTE: If you have a financial need, please see Robert Kimsey, deacon over Care Commission. We have food and gasoline cards to help you and a pantry full of food as well (see Lisa about Elijah’s Pantry).

Grace Announcements —

- ✓ Beginning Sunday, September 6th, Pastor will begin a new short-term Sunday School class called: “Christ, Communication, Conflict Resolution, and You.” Please mark a tear-off tab and put it in the offering to notify him that you wish to attend.
- ✓ Need a job? The **Norwalk Christian Academy** has openings for gardener, computer teacher and cafeteria worker. Please call the school for more information (562)863-6282 or see info. on the back table in the foyer.
- ✓ The Worship Commission would like to update the stage/sanctuary decorations for the various seasons of the year, and needs your financial assistance to help do this. If you would like to give toward this project, please mark your envelopes: “Worship Commission.” Our goal is \$500-\$1000. Thank you!
- ✓ Ladies, please mark your calendars for the **Southern California Women of Grace District Retreat** on November 13-15, 2015. The total cost of the Women’s Retreat is \$180; your deposit of \$60 is due. See Josie Ramirez if you would like to attend.

DRIVEN YOUTH EVENTS

FOR ALL YOUTH, PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND:



☼ Pool Party – This Wed.,

August 19th at 6:30pm

☼ Kayaking – Sun., August 30th

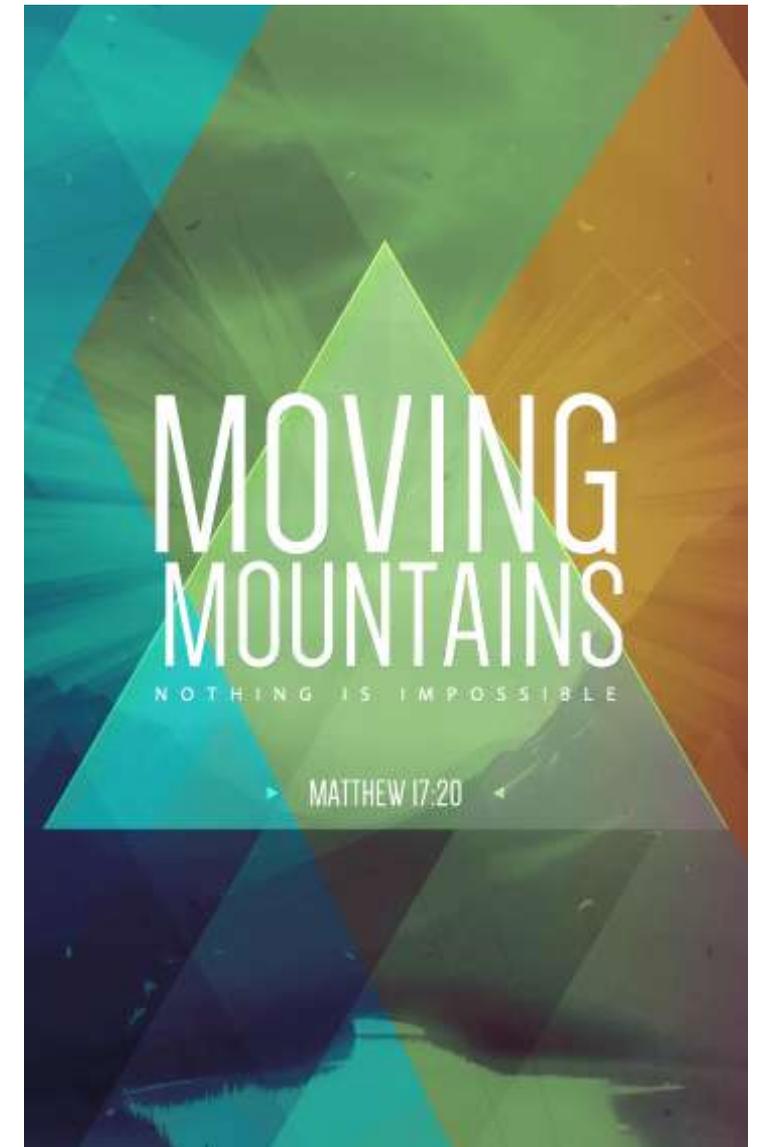
FROM 12:30-6:00pm; see Tim Lansing.

Sunday, August 16, 2015
Sermon Notes

Note from Pastor:

“MISS MANAGED”

Our culture is obsessed with “leadership.” And for some time now, unfortunately, the church has taken its cues from the world, and so the Church too is obsessed with “leadership,” and has thrust “leadership” onto the New Testament. At every turn churches are looking for “leaders.” We talk about “leaders,” but Luke, Paul, and Peter talk about “overseers, pastors, and elders.” These men are charged to “shepherd, care, watch over, and teach.” But we urge people to “lead.” Scripture uses specific terms and gives specific instructions, but we prefer generic ones. We prefer the simplicity of modern words, such as “lead” because “leaders lead,” but “elders do not ‘eld.’” Leadership is a biblical concept but in the Bible it is not approached like the Church approaches it today, the same way the world does. I think it is critical to the Church and to spiritual growth and formation that we use the terms the Bible uses, because biblical words are rich in meaning and force us to dig for explanations in God’s Word. Why do we prefer “leadership” to “eldership” in the Church today? Perhaps it is because we think of our churches in organizational terms, rather than in organic-living body terms. We think of our churches from the perspective of a business model, like a firm or a company, and so we look for “leaders” who can bring “vision” or we look for “managers” instead of biblical shepherds. Perhaps we do this because most of us don’t understand what biblical elders are or what they’re supposed to do. Are they beard-stroking sages that drip with wisdom? Biblical eldership revolves around one key idea: **servicing the church by protecting her from harm.** Elders, overseers, pastors, teachers (all forms of the same thing) are guardians (Acts 20:17-37; 1 Peter 5:1-11). Shepherds guard sheep. Shepherds protect the flock from injury, scattering, wolves, and thieves. Jesus is called The Good Shepherd. An “overseer” in the Bible is not a “supervisor,” but “keeps watch over.” He is not a “manager,” but a “watchman in a watchtower” looking for danger. Paul tells elders, “Wolves are coming and will try to attack your sheep (with false teaching), and so you must defend them!” Elders are not ONLY guardians. They also evangelize, plan, strategize, vision, communicate, counsel, manage, exhort, discipline, and a host of other duties, but all these things are in the **context** of guarding and shepherding. All the various duties of a pastor are forms of guarding. Elders manage to protect. Elders strategize to protect. Elders evangelize to protect the flock from becoming too insulated and introverted, etc. Elders are only human and of course protect imperfectly, but it is still a high calling that reflects the perfect shepherding of the Lord Jesus Christ. Elders are “watchmen over souls.” We are not “managing.” We are not “supervising.” We are not “corporate executives.” We are shepherding the souls of God’s children by defending THE Faith, once for all delivered in the writings of the apostles and authors of Divine Scripture (Jude 3). This is why the calling and position of elder should be highly regarded by the flock (1 Timothy 5:17). Our church will never be on Forbes’ Fortune 500 List, but we should strive to please our Great Shepherd, Jesus.



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